

**Date:** March 19, 2007

**To:** Gerald R. Miller, City Manager /s/

From: Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer /s/

**For:** Mayor and Members of the City Council

**Subject:** City Report For Week Ending March 16, 2007

This *City Report* highlights various activities for the week ending March 16. It is our hope that the *Focus on Results Long Beach* framework improves our ability to communicate information about the services we provide. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

### THIS WEEK IN THE NEWS

### **FOCUS AREA: NEIGHBORHOODS AND HOUSING**

**Community Development, Housing Services** 

City officials and residents attended a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Grand Re-Opening of the Cerritos Court Apartments located at 842-858 Cerritos Ct. on March 15. This important source of affordable housing was nearly lost due to torrential rains, which rendered them uninhabitable. The ceremony celebrated the completion of 23 refurbished apartment units that will provide affordable rental housing to low-income households. For more information, call 570.3852.

# Mark Your Calendars UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS

### FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION, AND LEISURE

Long Beach - One City

City Manager, Human Dignity Program

Learn communication skills to solve conflict peacefully at a Conflict Resolution Workshop on **March 20**, 5:30 pm, at the Neighborhood Resource Center, 425 Atlantic Ave. Participants can learn about conflict styles and how to recognize and deal effectively with conflict. The workshop is hosted by the City's Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Task Force and presented by National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) of Southern California and Peace Builders. For reservations, contact <a href="mailto:avera@nccjsocal.org">avera@nccjsocal.org</a> or call 435.8184.

# Mark Your Calendars UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS

### Library

Long Beach will celebrate the annual *Long Beach Reads One Book Week*, presented by the Long Beach Public Library Foundation, from **March 18 – 25**. Readers throughout Long Beach will discuss *The Greatest Generation*, Tom Brokaw's celebration of a generation that rose to meet the extraordinary challenges of World War II. World War II veterans will visit high school classrooms, and neighborhood libraries will hold special events. The Library Foundation, the Long Beach Symphony and the Historical Society will host a free USO-style event aboard the Queen Mary on **March 25**. For more information, call 628.2441 or visit www.lbplfoundation.org.

# **Community Development, Neighborhood Services**

Residents are invited to learn how to apply for grants during an Arts and Cultural Grants workshop on **March 26** at 6:00 pm, at the Neighborhood Resource Center, 425 Atlantic Ave. The Arts Council for Long Beach is providing grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$8,000 to fund community-oriented arts and cultural programs, performances, festivals, individual artist's work and other projects that benefit the community. Grant guidelines and application forms are available at <a href="https://www.artslb.org">www.artslb.org</a> and the Neighborhood Resource Center. For more information, call 570.1010.

# **FOCUS AREA: ENVIRONMENT**

### **Public Works, Environmental Services**

Staff will be assisting the West East Side Community Association (WESCA) with its monthly clean up on **Saturday, March 24**. Volunteers will meet at 2186 E. Spaulding Ave. to clean up the alleyways and streets of trash and debris. A refuse truck will collect the trash. Volunteers are welcome. Visit www.litterfreelb.org for more information.

### FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY

### **Police**

Members of the Interval House Domestic Violence Crisis Shelter will speak during the monthly Community Crime Prevention meeting on **Wednesday, March 21**, at 7:00 pm at the Long Beach Water Department, 1800 East Wardlow Rd. Domestic violence is a dangerous cyclical behavior that can be avoided or at least reduced through proper education. Call 570,7215 for more information.

### AWARDS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

# FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION, AND LEISURE

# **Police**

The Long Beach Police Athletic League (PAL) and United States Amateur Boxing hosted the 2007 District Seniors Championships at the Long Beach PAL's 9th Street facility. Three Long Beach PAL boxers won first place in their divisions, as well as the team trophy, and are now qualified to participate in the Regional Championships in San Diego on March 23-25. For more information about all PAL programs, call 570.8045.

# FOCUS AREA: BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

# **Community Development, Workforce Development**

Fifty-two families attended Long Beach Tax Day on March 8 to learn about the federal Earned Income Tax and Child Tax Credits as a way to boost overall income for working families. Participants had their tax returns completed by volunteers, while receiving information from Workforce Development staff and partners on other financial and social services available to them. The event was hosted by the Center for Working Families, along with its partners Broad Spectrum, a nonprofit corporation that is selected by the IRS to facilitate access to the Earned Income Tax Credits, and the IRS. This year-round partnership, which locates Broad Spectrum onsite at the Center, is part of the Workforce Development Bureau's strategy to provide support systems to the City's low-wage workers.

### Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau

Approximately 1,000 people attended the *Belmont Shore Sidewalk Sale* on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street on March 9.

Approximately 1,000 people attended a *Belmont Shore Health Fair* on 2nd Street on March 10.

Approximately 70 people attended *Kids in the Kitchen* in the Foot Action parking lot at 5<sup>th</sup> Street and The Promenade on March 10.

Approximately 500 people attended  $2^{nd}$  Saturday Art Walk on Linden Avenue, between  $1^{st}$  Street and Broadway, on March 10.

A cast and crew of 175 filmed a TV production of *House* on 4<sup>th</sup> Street on March 14.

A cast and crew of 90 filmed a TV production of *CSI Miami* on Lido Lane and at Davie's Launch Ramp on March 14 and 15.

A cast and crew of 150 filmed a TV production *Protect and Serve* on Pine Avenue from March 15 to March 17.

# FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY

# **Police**

A Sale of Aerosol Paint Decoy Program was held to ensure compliance of laws that govern the sale and storage of spray paint. The Gang Enforcement Section's Graffiti Unit, with the assistance of North Division's Directed Enforcement Team, targeted eight businesses, which resulted in two businesses in complete compliance, two businesses in violation of not having proper signage, and two businesses that sold to the minor decoy. The remaining two businesses had been previously cited and had stopped selling aerosol paint products altogether.

Anyone with information regarding graffiti vandals, or their activities, can report them anonymously to the *We Tip* Hotline at 570.7130. To report graffiti, call the Long Beach Graffiti Abatement Hotline at 570.2773.

# **FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY**

Police (continued)

Vice Detectives conducted a Prostitution "John" Program, wherein undercover female officers posed as prostitutes in the North Division area. Detectives arrested 12 people for prostitution and impounded nine vehicles.

The Traffic Section served 37 search warrants and arrested nine people during a citywide warrant operation.

#### Fire

The Fire Department responded to a total of 941 emergency calls for service: 82 calls for fires with 12 involving structures. It also responded to 787 emergency medical calls; 565 requiring paramedics.

## FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION, AND LEISURE

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau

More than 2,000 swimmers and spectators attended the *Junior Olympics*, hosted by the Golden West Swim Club, at the Belmont Plaza Pool.

Approximately 1,300 athletes and spectators attended the *CIF Southern Section Swim Relays* at the Belmont Plaza Pool.

More than 250 people participated in St. Patrick's Day Celebrations at the El Dorado and Long Beach Senior Centers.

### **Community Development, Neighborhood Services**

Eight parents and 12 children attended the first session of Partners in Print educational program, which consists of ten educational workshop classes designed to help parents assist their children to become better readers and more successful students. The 7<sup>th</sup> Street Community Police Center, in collaboration with the Long Beach Public Library Foundation and the Long Beach Unified School District, hosted the session, which was facilitated in English and Spanish. For more information, contact Gonzalo\_Sanchez@longbeach.gov.

# FOCUS AREA: ENVIRONMENT

# Community Development, Neighborhood Services

Twenty-four volunteers collected more than nine tons of illegally dumped trash, debris and other large items in the MacArthur Park Neighborhood Improvement Strategy Area. The Neighborhood Services Bureau, along with the Anaheim Street Community Police Center Advisory Board, sponsored the cleanup. For more information, contact <a href="mailto:Bryant\_Ben@longbeach.gov">Bryant\_Ben@longbeach.gov</a>.

### **Community Development, Neighborhood Services**

Forty-seven parents and dedicated students worked together to remove trash and debris from the Stevenson Elementary School and surrounding streets area on March 12. The Neighborhood Services Bureau and the 7<sup>th</sup> Street Community Police Center, in collaboration with the Stevenson Elementary School Community Leadership Institute Alumni, hosted the event. Contact Gonzalo Sanchez@longbeach.gov for more details.

# FOCUS AREA: NEIGHBORHOODS AND HOUSING

# **Community Development, Neighborhood Services**

Internationally acclaimed artist Art Mortimer worked with residents from the Craftsman Village neighborhood to paint a mural on the west-facing wall of the building at 1201 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street. The mural will depict the history of the beautiful Craftsman homes in the neighborhood and the families who have resided in them. For more information contact Gonzalo Sanchez@longbeach.gov.

## FOCUS AREA: INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION

# Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau

More than 8,500 cubic yards of sand has been transported to the city's east and west beaches to address sand erosion. The majority of sand was placed on the beach from 59th Place to 65th Place.

### Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau

All irrigation controller valves have been installed for the turf areas at Jack Nichol Park. The decorated walkways have also been installed and 15 palm trees have been planted.

The repairs to the El Dorado Regional Park bike path are complete.

The final fire inspection for the Admiral Kidd Park Community Center and Teen Center was completed on March 14.

### **FOCUS AREA: UTILITIES**

### Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Services Bureau

From March 5 through March 11, Bureau staff completed a total of 3,449 service calls. This total included 1,079 Gas and Water Utility Turn Ons, and 878 Turn Offs. During this period, 1,065 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 313 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 424 emergency phone calls that resulted in 114 emergency orders being sent out.

### **Street Construction Report**

### Long Beach Gas and Oil, Replace Gas Mains & Services

Contact: 570.2060

Throughout Treasure Island

Estimated completion: Mid March

### Long Beach Gas and Oil, Install Gas Mains & Services

Contact: 570.2060

Belmont Shore Livingston Dr. and Second St.

Estimated Completion: Early June

# Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Valve Replacement

Contact: 570,2060

Santa Fe Ave. and W. Willow St.

Estimated completion: Late March

### **Street Construction Report** (continued)

# Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Line Adjustment

Contact: 570.2060

Santa Fe Ave. and W. Pacific Coast Hwy. Estimated completion: Late March

### Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Main and Service Replacement

Contact: 570.2060

South of Broadway Between Quincy Ave. and Covina Ave.

Estimated completion: Late April

### Water Department, Division Street Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project

Contact: 570.2329

Division St. From Bennett Ave. to Ximeno Ave. Division St. From Bennett Ave. to Bayshore Ave.

Estimated completion: Late March

# Water Department, Cast Iron Main Replacement Project

Contact: 570.2323

Artesia Blvd. Between Atlantic Ave. and Cherry Ave.

Estimated completion: May

### Water Department, Recycled Water Conversion of Bluff Park, Bixby Park, and Stearns Park

Contact: 570-2326

Ocean Blvd. From Molino Ave. to Junipero Ave. Junipero Ave. From Ocean Blvd. to First St.

Estimated completion: July

### Water Department, Division Street Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project

Contact: 570-2329

2nd Street Bridge One lane (#3) 24-hours closure

Estimated completion: Late March

GRM: KP: arc

cc: Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager

Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager Suzanne Mason, Deputy City Manager City Manager Department Heads

Tom Modica, Government Affairs Manager Jyl Marden, Assistant to the City Man